

Eustace ISD students reading at grade level after Fast ForWord participation

Implementation Objectives

The Eustace Independent School District in Eustace, TX, was interested in evaluating the effects of the Fast ForWord products on the reading skills of early elementary school students. They used a case study involving the assessment of student reading achievement before and after participation on the Fast ForWord products. Study participants were first or second grade students.

Methodology

School personnel tested the students' reading skills at the beginning and end of the study using the Texas Primary Reading Inventory (TPRI). School personnel administered the assessment.

Educators were trained in:

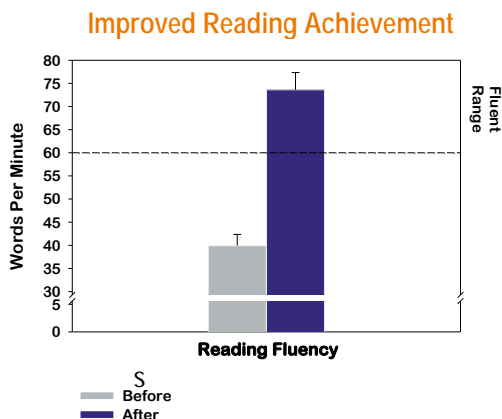
- Current findings on the neuroscience of how phonemic awareness and the acoustic properties of speech impact rapid development of language and reading skills
- Methods for assessing candidates for use of Fast ForWord
- Appropriate measures for testing and evaluation
- Effective implementation techniques
- Use of Progress Tracker reports to monitor student performance
- Techniques for measuring gains students achieve after they have finished using the product

Schedule of Use

Students participated 50 minutes per day, five days per week, for eight to twelve weeks. All participants used the Fast ForWord Language product and approximately half also used the Fast ForWord Language to Reading product. On average, students completed 67% of the Fast ForWord Language product in 33 days.

Assessment Results

The TPRI is an individually administered assessment of reading ability designed for grades K-3. It contains a screening section to determine the reading level of a student and an inventory section to assess specific reading skills including phonemic awareness, fluency and comprehension. The Institute for the Development of Educational Achievement, in accordance with the Reading First legislation, recognizes the TPRI as an appropriate assessment for measuring improvement in the reading skills of children in early elementary school.



A first grader who is reading at grade level can read approximately 60 words per minute on the TPRI fluency subtest. Following Fast ForWord use, first grade students, most of whom were not initially fluent readers, were reading at 73 words per minute. In addition, 84% of the students had a reading accuracy level of "Independent" after Fast ForWord participation.

Educational Gains

The results found in this study support other studies demonstrating that using the Fast ForWord products results in the strengthening of foundational reading skills, better positioning students to partake in the classroom curriculum.

Students achieved significant gains in fluency.



Program Study Statistics

School year:
2005 – 2006

Number of Students:
205 students

Grade Level:
First and second grades

Products Used:
Fast ForWord Language
Fast ForWord Language to Reading

Assessment tool used:
Texas Primary Reading Inventory (TPRI)

School Structure:
Suburban

For detailed analysis of this data or to request other reports showing significant academic gains following use of the Fast ForWord family of products go to: www.scilearn.com/resultsreports

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